



Equity Council Agenda

Zoom Meeting Time: June 12, 2020 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Welcomes & Introductions

- Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) Secretary Womazetta Jones welcomed the council members
- Secretary Womazetta Jones opened the space for discussion regarding the Black Lives Matter protests occurring in the state and nationwide, in response to the murder of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and many other Black individuals due to police brutality.

Business Resources | Doris Blanchard, Assistant Director at RI Commerce Corporation

- Assistant Director Blanchard provided an overview of the resources available to small businesses and answered Equity Council questions

Equity Council Concerns | Dorinda Keene, Acting Associate Director at the RI Office of Diversity, Equity and Opportunity

- Acting Associate Director Keene provided an overview of State procurement for minority-owned businesses and answered Equity Council questions.

Community Feedback: What are you hearing from the community? What should the State know?

- A council member requested that the RI Commerce's Latino business organization weekly meetings include individuals of other races, ethnicities, and communities as well.

Updates from the Last Meeting

- A Council member worked with the Providence Revolving Fund to create the [Providence Commercial Corridor Micro-Business Loan Program](#), which will provide emergency funding to micro-businesses to help address safety measures needed for reopening due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The State distributed 400,000 surgical masks to the ten [Health Equity Zones](#), and another 4,000 were given to faith communities. Additionally, several Council members are working with [Project Undercover](#) to help meet the emergency supply needs of kids.

Next Steps

- The State communications team will work on making information about testing clearer and easier to access.

Close

- Closing remarks given by Secretary Womazetta Jones

